

## THE GREAT TRIAL.

(Special Correspondence of the GAZETTE.)

WOODRUFF TESTIMONY—MORRIS APOLOGIZES—A TRIBUTE PAMPHLET—POWERFUL ARGUMENT BY MR. EVARTS ON THE MARRIAGE RELATION—REPLY BY MESSRS. PRYOR AND BEACH—JUDGE NELSON DECIDES IN FAVOR OF MR. TILTON—MRS. TILTON'S CONFESSION RULED OUT IN ONE WAY AND ADMITTED IN ANOTHER—RALPH (NOT JAPHET) IN SEARCH OF A FATHER!

Since my last letter much of interest has transpired. Firstly, after some opposition, Mr. Woodruff was allowed to testify. He was Mr. Moulton's partner, and his testimony, though of very limited extent, and rather unimportant, was designated to be corroborative of Mr. Moulton's. This was on Thursday; the day on which Mr. Beach attacked the *Tribune*, and a pamphlet said to have been compiled from the *Tribune* report, which contained among other things an allegation that Mr. Morris had offered an affront to Mr. Beecher. Mr. Beach on behalf of Mr. Morris hastened to disclaim any intention on the part of the latter to offer the Plymouth Pastor an affront.

The excitement was very great when Mr. Tilton was offered as a witness in his own behalf. Counsel on both sides had looked upon this from the first as a critical moment in the case, and duly fortified themselves with authorities in support of their respective positions.

Mr. Everts rose at once to his feet and challenged the witness, who turned slowly round, and seated himself in the witness chair, pending the debate on his admissibility. Mr. Everts then opened an argument which for comprehensive eloquence is without parallel in the history of the Brooklyn bar, and has seldom been equaled at any other. He spoke slowly, calmly and dispassionately; yet on his masterly analysis of the marriage relation, and its maintenance in purity as forming the distinctive difference between Christian communities "and the loose and lustful herdings of the human race," he spoke with fire and animation, and as his clear voice ceased its powerful utterances, the enthusiasm far exceeded the power of the court to quell.

Mr. Pryor responded at great length, and was followed by Mr. Beach, both in response to Mr. Everts who subsequently rose and cited additional authorities in support of his point. This discussion, which began on Thursday, was continued through Friday, and was left for the Judge to pass upon on Monday, when as it was said he would have to "show his hand."

On Monday the decision was rendered in Mr. Tilton's favor and the opportunity afforded him, in contravention of the statute of 1857, of going upon the stand to blast his wife's character without her ability to defend herself, the law prohibiting a wife testifying against her husband. He testified to his early connection with Plymouth church, the amount of his property, his income, and the tribulations of the Golden Age.

His manner on the stand was very nervous; he breathed with difficulty, and scrupulously avoided looking in the direction of Mr. Beecher, or his wife. He looked chiefly toward the jury, and labored to impress them with his own disbelief in his wife. He did not hesitate to charge home on Mr. Bowen great responsibility in his whole matter.

Mrs. Tilton's "confession" was ruled out as having been wilfully destroyed, but Mr. Tilton was allowed to bring it in as near as he could recollect it from memory.

Mr. Tilton's mother-in-law was soon brought in by the witness, she having described him in a letter as of unsound mind, a drunkard and a brute. He said he "had had large experience with her. Mr. Tilton's nervousness somewhat forsook him on this point, and he addressed the jury with fervid eloquence.

Mr. Tilton's heartless dragging in of his little son Ralph, as a boy of doubtful paternity, tell like a pall upon the crowd assembled in the court room, and the harrowing recital was not only rejected by his opponents, but his warmest friends were compelled to admit that his case instead of being strengthened, was materially damaged thereby.

Mr. Tilton explained his relations with Mrs. Woodhull substantially as Mr. Moulton had explained them for him, and did not differ from that witness in anything he said in any way, on that subject.

He claimed that the present managing editor of the Christian Union owed that position to his (Mr. Tilton's) influence. The witness pleaded the absence of previous intimation on his part in extension of his introducing Mrs. Woodhull at Steinway Hall, on the occasion of her Free love lecture, the memory of which is more odorous than fragrant. Mr. Tilton explained how he came to write the Woodhull Biography. It seems that one of that lady's husbands came to him with what purported to be a biographical sketch of Mrs. W., which Mr. Tilton was to "revise." He did so by taking out the bottom, top, ends and sides, and using the rest, in other words, the whole thing had to be re-written, and so arduous was the task that he had to stay all night at Mrs. Woodhull's in order to complete it. He modestly left out this gift of woman's power to raise the dead and her post mortem intercourse with the Greek orator Demosthenes, through spiritual converse, communion of soul as it were, which appeared in the original draft. But on reading it at the Woodhull breakfast table the next morning the family refused to take stock in it. The lady in question was greatly dissatisfied and refused to be biographed in any such fashion as that. Demosthenes and the resurrection must go in—and in they went!

Wednesday was spent in the identification of letters which had passed between Mr. and Mrs. Tilton during their married life and the reading thereof in court, after which Mr. Everts began the cross examination. This revealed a difference in regard to doctrine which Mr. Tilton said had caused his wife great unhappiness, adding that he did not regard God as Jehovah.

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FRIDAY, FEB. 26th.—Rev. H. W. BALLAN-

TINE. Subject—"CIVILIZATION IN

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26.

Jm-26

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Whittier. The Death of the Old Squire.

Anon. The Annuity. Geo. Outram.

Jan. 27. LECTURE—ON AET.—Subject—

The Greek Temple, with full Stereopti-

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Feb. 5. READINGS.—By Professor Locke

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Folks. Anon. The Lump of Gold—

Home in Despair—At the Digging—

Peace at Last—Dr. Chas. J. May. The

Leap Year Wooing—A suggestion to

Bashful Lovers. Anon. The Lost Irish-

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SOIREE MUSICALE.

Feb. 8. "Una Notte a Venezia." Miss Hen-

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two pianos on themes from Verdi's "At-

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